

# RELAY CHATTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JOLIET AREA

THEATER ORGAN ENTHUSIASTS

WWW.JATOE.ORG DON WALKER, NEWSLETTER EDITOR: [JATOE.BARTON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JATOE.BARTON@GMAIL.COM)



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SEPT / OCT 2019

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, September 15, 2019**

**Rialto Theatre, Joliet, IL**

Doors open at 1:30pm

Program at 2:00 pm

Guest Artist: **Jared Goldinger  
& Vocalist, Nathan Hall**

**Sunday, October 13, 2019**

**CTOS & JATOE at the Allen  
Organ Studios, Bolingbrook,  
IL**

Doors open at 2:30 pm

Program at 3:00pm

Guest Artist: **David Gray (See  
pages 3 & 4 for details.)**

## Work Started on the Barton!

On July 1st, Judy Matarelli, our representative at the ATOS convention in New York, had informed me that we were awarded an ATOS grant in the sum of \$4600.00 for the repairs needed to the Barton to make it ready for the 2022 Chicago convention.

“WOW” is all I had to say! Here are the projects:

Main Vox Regulator rebuild (completed)

Xylophone equalizer rebuild (completed)

Main Tibia Chest rebuild

Concert Flute Chest rebuild

Swell Shades upper main

Swell Shades lower main

Lobby organ repairs



As you can see most all the work is in the main chambers. After all this is completed, the toy counter will need to be rebuilt. We are going to update the Peterson computer program so we can have orchestra bells, a reiterating xylophone and marimba. New stop tabs are being engraved to replace the tape covered ones. New toe pistons will be waiting to go in to operate some of the sound effects. The goal here is to have the organ 100% working. I don't know if that has ever happened. If it's in the chambers then it needs to work. Our pride and joy will be the lobby organ playing again as patrons enter the Rialto.

Much will be going on the rest of the year and into 2020.

- Joel Martis



Ctrl

Did you know the newsletter is filled with even more! For those that receive the newsletter by email, anything in color and underlined is a link to another web page that has to do with the article.

Simply hold down your control (ctrl) Key, move over the link and the cursor will change to a

pointing hand. Double click the link and off you go to read even more. This

also works on pictures. Try double clicking on the Reels at the Rialto. It will take you to their movie web site. It works in the ads. For our members that have passed recently, click on their name to read the full obituary. There is so much more in your newsletter.



## Organ Lift Repaired Again

**May 30th was movie night at the Rialto Theater. Jim Patak was starting to play for the Star Wars movie and the organ was on its way up but didn't make it far. About one foot up, it stopped. We went down to check the controls and a fuse had blown. We had found that the solenoid for the brake system that was overhauled went out again. It was removed and sent out again for repairs on June 3rd and returned to service on June 28th.**

# CALENDAR of Events

## CATOE

**September 29th**

**Downers Grove North H.S.  
business/election/convention  
meeting at 3pm  
musical performance at the  
conclusion.**

**Guest Artist: Taylor Trimby**

**October 20th**

**Mundelein  
Program at 3pm**

**Guest Artist: David Rhodes**

## CTOS & JATOE

**Allen Organ Studio**

**October 13th**

**Doors open 2:30pm**

**Program at 3pm**

**Guest Artist: David Gray**

## DAIRYLAND

**September 8th, 2:30pm**

**McNeely VTPO Social  
76 Opportunity Way Appleton,  
WI 54915**

**Guest Artist: Jake Cihla**



## Letter from the editor

On July 20, the SanFilippo foundation presented a program entitled, "Three Under 33." I've been involved with theatre organ since 1983, and I've never experienced such an enthusiastic audience! About one third of the audience was under 40 years of age. Nathan and Zach presented modern music that was professionally done with rhythm and digital accompaniment. We heard things like Michael Jackson's, 'Thriller,' to the theme from 'Slumdog Millionaire.' Nick presented more traditional theatre organ music including a very exciting and orchestral arrangement of Ketelby's, 'In a Persian Market,' utilizing the huge tower chimes and full organ to dramatic effect. Whatever your feelings about what type of music should be played on a theatre organ, all of the music presented was professional, appealing and played with passion. The cheers and response from the audience after



each individual number was truly inspiring! I would encourage each of you to support the mission of the foundation and attend one of the concerts in this beautiful setting. Here is the link to the foundation's website:

[http://  
www.sanfilippofoundation.org/](http://www.sanfilippofoundation.org/)

-Don Walker

Rhonda Wickerham is battling cancer. A GoFundMe page has been set up by the family. Dave is having to cancel some of his concerts so he can be with Rhonda in this difficult time. Anything you can do to help Dave and Rhonda is greatly appreciated, including your prayers. Below is the go fund me site.



[www.gofundme.com/the-rhonda-sue-wickerham-cancer-fight](http://www.gofundme.com/the-rhonda-sue-wickerham-cancer-fight) To date they have raised \$18,700 of the \$35,000

goal for Rhonda.

*Please remember the following people in your prayers.:*  
Jan Challender, Barbara Petry, Rhonda Wickerham, Jim Gallops, Bill Reynolds, Cheri Day and Jim Stephenson.





Jared Goldinger is 19 years old and lives in Massillon, Ohio. Regularly, he plays at the Canton Palace Theatre on the 3/11 Kilgen Wonder Organ, mostly before movies, and has played in numerous locations, including the Akron Civic Theatre, and the Connor Palace Theatre in Cleveland. Jared has been playing the Classical organ for almost 4 years, and the theatre pipe organ for 3 years. However, he has been studying piano for 12 years. He became interested in the pipe organ after attending a silent film “Gold Rush” by Charlie Chaplin. Jared is coached by Mark Thewes for his classical organ studying, and by Jelani Eddington for theatre organ, with help from Jay Spencer, another theatre

organist from Canton. Jared has attended the 2016 ATOS Annual Convention in Cleveland, Ohio as a winner of the George Wright Memorial Fellowship, and had helped tuned the Wurlitzer at the Akron Civic Theatre before the convention. He also attends the annual ATOS Summer Youth Adventure, for further instruction to refine his technique and skill. As a result, Jared was a finalist in 2019 for the Young Theatre Organist’s Competition, which was held during the Annual Convention in Rochester, New York. Outside of the theatre organ world, Jared is the staff organist for Faith Lutheran Church in Massillon, where he has been organist since November of 2018. Jared enjoys creating music, whether it be arrangements, or compositions created digitally. Jared graduated from Jackson High School in May of 2018, and had attended the Jackson School of the Arts, a school with curriculum centered around any and all art forms, including choir, band, dance, and theatre. He will be attending Aerotek Flight School to obtain his pilot’s license, and go on to become a private or commercial pilot.



Nathan Hall is 19 years old, and an aspiring musician who plans on pursuing vocal performance and composition. He has been extremely passionate about music since he was young, and has been excited to perform anywhere in anyway that he can. Nate graduated from Jackson High School in Massillon, Ohio in 2018, and also attended the Jackson School for the Arts, where he participated in Theatre, Choir, and the show choir through high school. He also sings with the Jackson Jazz Band throughout the year. Being on stage is nothing new to him with these

Enter 121 Scott St. Stage Doors open at 1:30pm Show starts at 2:00pm. Bring Refreshments!



## LIVE AT THE ALLEN ORGAN STUDIO ON THE 5 MANUAL ALLEN THEATER ORGAN

**DAVID GRAY**



David Gray, a young Scottish piano and organ prodigy and student of the London Royal Academy of Music, had his first opportunity to play a theatre organ at age 13. Subsequently, a local teacher “took him under his wing”, coaching him in the art of theatre organ. In 2005 David won the international “American Theatre Organ Society Young Theatre Organist of the Year” competition in Los Angeles. He has since played concerts throughout the UK, Australia, New Zealand, USA and Switzerland. David graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Music (Performance) degree at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Walt Strony, one of the world’s most highly sought after theatre organists, commented on David performance: “As I write this, David Gray just finished playing an amazing piano solo. Today we are witnessing the birth of a new concert artist – one with talent, technique and a quiet unassuming personality that will win many supporters. In an organ world filled with mediocrity and, in my opinion, too many ‘formula’ players who are not at all original, it’s such a joy and privilege to know that the future of the art form is secure.” This young man has a unique style all his own and is a refreshing joy to listen to.

The Allen studio is located at: 181 W Crossroads Pkwy, Unit D, Bolingbrook IL 60440. Look for the green Allen canopy above the door to the studio. The phone number is: 630-428-9701

**Doors open at 2:30pm Show starts at 3:00pm. Bring Refreshments!**

Please Welcome Linda Sokol Francis, Linda comes to us from Brookfield, IL Welcome Linda!



Please Welcome Justin Krasowski, Justin comes to us from Marseilles, IL Welcome Justin!



Please Welcome Phyllis Misch, Phyllis comes to us from Kouts, IN Welcome Phyllis!



Please Welcome Lorin Lynch. Lorin comes to us from New Lenox, IL Welcome!



Please Welcome Lynne Lichtenauer. Lynne comes to us from New Lenox, IL Welcome!



On Sunday, August 25, Colonel Jack Moelmann and Nick Renkosik presented a concert at the Lincoln Theatre in Belleville, IL at the 3/17 hybrid theatre organ. The concert truly offered something for everyone including organ solo's, vocalist, Winn Pardee, organ/piano duets with Jack Moelmann and Henry Evans, audience sing-a-long, the Laurel and Hardy silent film, "Angora Love" from 1929, and finally Jack's finale, "A Tribute to America," medley of patriotic songs with Nick accompanying on the piano. A standing ovations ensued at the conclusion of the program! Unfortunately, Jack announced that after 52 years of presenting these programs, this would be his last due to health related issues. In the photo below from L-R, Winn Pardee, vocalist, Jack Moelmann, Nick Renkosik, Henry Evans and Master of Ceremonies, Don Near from Southern California. Many thanks to Jack for what he continue to do to promote theatre organ! -Don Walker

Happy Labor Day  
Honoring the American Worker



We were informed of the passing of our member [Philip Brown](#) of Lockport. May 29, 2019



Eternal Rest Grant  
Unto Him O Lord and  
Let Perpetual Light Shine  
Upon Him. Our  
condolences to Philip's  
family.





We have been informed of the passing of [Mathew J. Spinello](#) on May 10, 2019. Father of JATOE member Matt F. Spinello. Matt was also a board member of the Land of Lincoln Theatre Organ Society. Our condolences

to Matt's family.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him  
O Lord and Let Perpetual Light  
Shine Upon Him.



It is with great sadness we have been informed JATOE member [John Devona](#) passed away June 13, 2019 at Elmhurst Hospital. John had terminal cancer. Our



condolences to John's family.



A memorial service was held July 28th at the First Congregational Church of Lockport. Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him O Lord and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him.



CTOS invites members of JATOE for a special opportunity to have a private concert, dinner, and a Q & A session at our MEET THE ARTIST program to be held October 12, 2019. Guest Artist is David Gray. To take advantage of this opportunity you need to join BRAVO PARTNERS. For a donation of \$100.00 or more, you and your guest will be invited to this program, receive a one year membership in CTOS, receive our monthly newsletter and be enrolled in our Bravo Partners. To join please send your check made out to CTOS to George Wine, 7N783 Stevens Road, Saint Charles, IL by October 6<sup>th</sup>. You may also join on our web site using Pay Pal at <https://ctos.club/donate-form/>

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2019 "Reels at the Rialto" Movie line up, tickets are just \$5, all shows start at 7pm. The Barton Grande Theater Pipe Organ plays half an hour before all shows.

September 19th - Walk the Line – Glenn Tallar  
 October 17th - Hocus Pocus - Carl DeSanti



Happy Halloween



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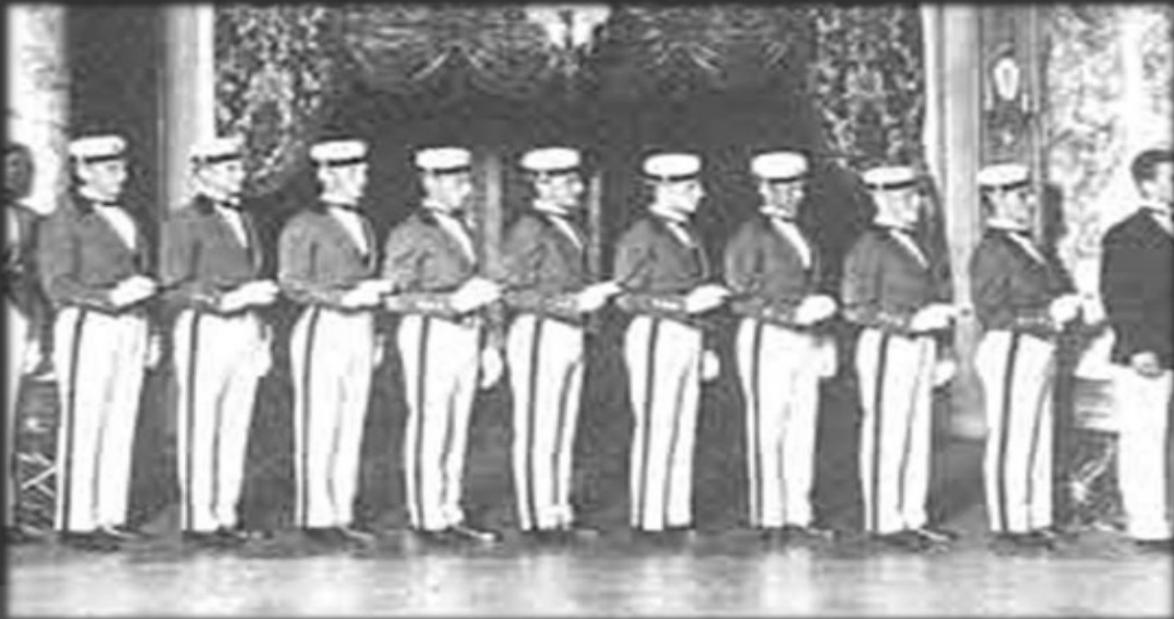
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**TUESDAYS 5:30PM TO 8:30PM**

**FRIDAYS 5:30PM TO 9:45\* PM**  
\*OR LATER DEPENDING ON AUDIENCE



# Rialto ushers, circa 1926



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15 E. Van Buren St  
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60432